

MINUTES

—OF THE—

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

UNITY

❖ BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, ❖

—HELD WITH—

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, ELMORE CO., ALA.

Saturday, Sunday and Monday,

October, 3, 4 and 5, '85.

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OFFICERS:

A. J. BROOKS.....MODERATOR,.....Verbena, Ala
T. M. HENLEY...CLERK,Randolph, Ala
K. WELLS.....TREASURER,.....Verbena, Ala

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The next Session will be held with Clanton Church, Clanton, Chilton
County, Ala., on Saturday before the First Sabbath in October, 1886.

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MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
THE ALABAMA BAPTIST PRINT,
1885.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon preached.
2. Intermission, one hour for dinner.
3. The Moderator called the Association to order.
4. Letters read.
5. Organization.
6. Rules of Decorum read.
7. Ministers who are not Messengers invited to seats.
8. Admission of new churches.
9. Correspondence received and returned.
10. Appoint committees on :
 - (a.) Preaching
 - (b.) Letters and documents.
 - (c.) Missions,
 - (d.) Bible Schools.
 - (e.) Education.
 - (f.) Temperance.
 - (g.) Periodicals.
 - (h.) Deceased Ministers.
 - (i.) Aged and Infirm Ministers and Families of Dec'd Ministers.
 - (j.) Finance.
 - (k.) Special.
11. Miscellaneous Business.
12. Adjourn.
13. Reassemble.
14. Roll Call.
15. Previous Minutes read.
16. Reports of Committees in the above order.
17. The Committee on Preaching to appoint some one to preach the
Introductory Sermon next session.
18. Miscellaneous Business.
19. Treasurer's Report.
20. Adjourn.

✱MINUTES✱

The Unity Baptist Association assembled in its Thirty-First Session with the Friendship Baptist Church, Elmore county, Ala., on Saturday, October 3rd, 1885. At 11 o'clock A. M., the introductory sermon was preached by Elder. J. A. Mullens, from Psalms 110 : 1, 2 and 3.

After an intermission of one hour and a quarter for dinner, the Messengers from the Churches assembled in the church building and were called to order by the Moderator, Eld. J. Falkner.

After reading a part of the 89th Psalm, and singing the hymn "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun," the Association was led in prayer by Eld. T. M. Bailey.

Brethren A. J. Brooks and W. J. D. Upshaw were appointed to read the letters from the churches.

Eld. W. J. Ruddick assisted the Clerk in enrolling the names of the Messengers as follows:

Randolph—T. M. Henley, Ezekiel Fancher, Luther M. Latham.

Chestnut Creek—†Hardy Jones, F. M. Connell, S. M. Yates, G. A. DuBose, Wm. Moore.

Collins Chapel—W. D. Martin, T. J. Collins.

Shiloh—J. W. Scott, J. R. Vinson, R. L. Williams †T. J. Billingsley, J. H. Griffis.

Verbena—K. Wells, W. B. Strock, A. J. Brooks, J. T. Cook, W. C. Adair, H. C. Humes, W. F. Claughton.

Liberty—*J. R. Caldwell, F. A. Goolsby, J. N. Cook, S. B. Wilder, J. M. Manning.

Friendship—*J. L. Long, *Isaac Bice, A. N. Norris, Charles Booth.

Mulberry—D. A. White, A. S. Coburn.

Autaugaville—O. W. Sherer.

Bethesda—J. H. Bates, G. Wallis.

Big Spring—G. D. Apperson, W. A. Dobson, James Hedgepath, J. M. Willis, J. M. Sprigner.

Mt. Zion—*J. A. Mullens, Oliver Mullins.

Providence—J. R. Thomas.

Plantersville—*W. N. Huckabee.

Ebenezer—*W. J. Ruddick, †J. M. Kailen, Jas. A. Stevens.

Harmony—J. Griffis, C. C. Goolson, W. L. Taylor, R. J. Bishop.

Bozeman—*J. Falkner, W. T. Smith, W. A. B. Falkner.

Cane Creek—James Gore.

Shady Grove—*A. Andrews, O. Moore.

Pilgrims Rest—Lee Hayes, J. L. Dickerson.

Popular Springs—John Satterwhite, Wm. Ray, J. S. Scarbrough, J. L. Dupree.

Valley Creek—T. M. Cook.

Clanton—J. H. Chandler.

Corinth—P. N. Jones, Joel Dennis, W. B. Taylor.

New Prospect—A. M. Rollin, C. W. Dudley, G. W. Coburn.

Evergreen—W. A. Overstreet, W. W. Coffee.

Mt. Carmel—W. W. Sauson, T. W. Klenner.

*Ordained ministers. †Licentiates.

The election of Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer then took place. Elder J. Falkner having served as Moderator for several years past earnestly requested the body to select some one else in his stead. On motion, the rules were suspended and the officers were elected by acclamation, resulting in the choice of Bro. A. J. Brooks for Moderator, and the re-election of Brethren T. M. Henley and K. Wells for Clerk and Treasurer respectively. The Moderator, A. J. Brooks, returned his thanks to the Association for its confidence in him, and declared the body organized and ready for business.

The Rules of Decorum were read by Eld. W. J. Ruddick. Ministers not Messengers invited to seats.

Eld. T. M. Bailey was recognized in his official capacity as Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board.

Bro. J. G. Harris was recognized as the editor and publisher of the *Alabama Baptist*.

An invitation to newly constituted churches to unite with this Association was responded to by New Prospect and Evergreen churches. On motion, they were received, the Moderator extending the right hand of fellowship to their Messengers.

Correspondents received from sister Associations as follows:

Central—W. J. D. Upshaw.

Mulberry—Package of Minutes, through Bro. J. M. Kailen.

Returned Correspondents as follows:

Cahaba—Elder A. Andrews.

Mulberry—T. M. Henley, Luther M. Latham, J. M. Kailen and W. N. Huckabee.

Shelby—W. N. Huckabee, E. Fancher, J. H. Chandler and T. M. Henley.

Montgomery—J. Falkner, J. R. Caldwell, A. Andrews and J. H. Ray.

Central—J. H. Ray, W. B. Strock, I. Bice, J. R. Caldwell.

State Convention—Elders J. Falkner, W. J. Ruddick, W. N. Huckabee, A. Andrews, J. H. Ray, Hardy Jones, J. R. Caldwell and Brethren J. M. Kailen, A. J. Brooks, K. Wells, W. B. Strock, W. T. Smith and T. M. Henley.

While the Moderator was occupied in making up the various committees, Elder T. M. Bailey distributed among the Messengers for the use of the churches, some circulars showing the work of the State Mission Board for the conventional year 1885-6.

Following is the list of committees appointed by the Moderator:

On Preaching—Pastor and deacons of Friendship Church, with Bros. W. C. Adair and G. A. DuBose.

On Letters and Documents—W. N. Huckabee, W. F. Claughton and G. W. Coburn.

On Missions—W. T. Smith, W. Claughton, J. R. Caldwell. (Report next session.)

On Bible Schools—W. J. Ruddick, J. M. Kailen, W. B. Strock. (Report next session.)

On Education—Hardy Jones, Oliver Mullens, S. B. Wilder. (Report next session.)

On Temperance—J. H. Ray, Isaac Rice, T. J. Billingsley. (Report next session.)

On Periodicals—J. Falkner, James A. Stevens, James Griffin.

On Deceased Ministers—J. A. Mullens, H. C. Humes, O. W. Sherer.

Aged and Infirm Ministers and their Families—W. C. Adair, A. Norris, P. M. Jones.

On Finance—W. T. Smith, W. N. Huckabee, F. A. Goolsby.

On motion, Bro. K. Wells was excused for the evening.

The Moderator laid before the Association some circulars of Prof. W. U. Acree's school at Verbena, accompanied with the statement that Prof. Acree would take as many as two ministerial students from this Association at his school, tuition free.

On motion of Elder W. N. Huckabee, the thanks of the Association were tendered to Professor Acree for his kind offer.

Bro. J. G. Harris then made some remarks in relation to the *Alabama Baptist*: what kind of a paper it was, and what he proposed to make it, etc. Elder Huckabee also made some remarks in regard to the paper. Bro. Harris proposed to furnish it in clubs of ten at \$1 50 each. Bro. W. T. Smith stated that if twenty would subscribe and pay Bro. Harris 50 cents each he would see that the remainder of the \$1 50 each was paid.

The Committee on Preaching made the following report :

Elder W. J. Ruddick to preach to-night at 7 1-2 o'clock; Prayer meeting to-morrow at 9 a. m., conducted by Bro. J. M. Kailen. Sabbath School address at 10 a. m. by Bro. J. G. Harris. Missionary Sermon at 11 a. m. by Eld. T. M. Bailey. Sermon at 2 p. m. by Elder J. R. Caldwell. Preaching at night at 7 1-2 o'clock by Eld. W. N. Huckabee.

The letter from Mt. Carmel Church was then read.

On motion of Bro. O. W. Sherer, a collection was ordered to be taken up at the conclusion of the 11 o'clock sermon to-morrow.

On motion, adjourned till 9 o'clock Monday morning.

SABBATH, Oct. 4, 1885.

Eld. W. J. Ruddick preached Saturday night, from John chap 17:15.

1st. clause. Prayer meeting at 9 o'clock to-day, conducted by Bro. J. M. Kailen, assisted by the brethren.

Bro. J. G. Harris, at 10 o'clock, delivered a very interesting and instructive Sabbath School address.

At 11 o'clock Eld. T. M. Bailey, preached the Missionary Sermon, from II. Cor. v: chap. 21: Amount collected \$18.95.

At 7½ o'clock p. m. Eld. W. N. Huckabee, preached on "Prayer." The congregations were large and attentive, and we trust that the services of the day accomplished much good.

MONDAY, 9 A. M. Oct. 5th, 1885.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, and after singing the hymn, "How sweet, how heavenly is the sound," prayer was offered by Eld. A. Andrews.

Roll called and absentees marked.

Minutes of Saturday read and adopted.

On motion, debate on any subject was limited to ten minutes to each speaker.

On motion, a Special Committee of three, consisting of Brethren J. R. Caldwell, S. B. Wilder, and J. R. Vinson, was appointed, to take in consideration the Financial and Treas-

urers Report of last session, and make report in connection with present Finance Committee.

Report on Letters and Documents, was read by Eld. W. N. Huckabee, Bro. A. J. Brooks, (Eld. J. Falkner, in the Chair) moved to amend the recommendation of the Committee in regard to the time when the Association should meet next year, from Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, 1886, to Friday before the 3d, Sabbath in August, 1886. Report as amended was then adopted.

Brethren, J. W. Scott and S. B. Wilder were appointed with Bro. W. B. Strock, the Committee on Missions, with instruction to report immediately after dinner, which should be the first order of business at that time.

Report on Bible Schools was read by Bro. O. W. Sherer. After discussion by Eld. T. M. Bailey, (who was not limited as to time,) W. N. Huckabee, J. A. Mullens, Brethren, J. G. Harris, O. Mullins, and O. W. Sherer, the reports was adopted.

On motion, the rules were suspended, and the matter of the amount due Bro. K. Wells, for schooling Bro. J. M. Kailen, at Verbena, was taken up. Plantersville Church sent up \$3,00; Big Spring, \$3,00; Shady Grove, \$3,00; Valley Creek, \$2,35. Cash raised in the house \$12,25. Total \$23.60, being the amount, reported in the last minutes, as due Bro. K. Wells, if pledges of last year are paid.

Report on Education read by Eld. W. N. Huckabee. After remarks by Eld. J. Falkner, W. J. Ruddick, T. M. Bailey and A. Andrews, the report was adopted.

Report on Temperance was read by Bro. O. W. Sherer. After discussion, by Bro. J. G. Harris, Eld. A. Andrews, J. Falkner and J. R. Caldwell, the report was adopted.

Report on Periodicals, was read by Eld. J. Falkner. Discussed by Elds. T. M. Bailey, and J. Falkner. Report adopted.

Recess one hour for dinner.

On re-assembling, sung the hymn, "Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing." Prayer by Bro. W. B. Strock.

On motion of Bro. K. Wells, the regular order of business was suspended, in order for him to move for a reconsideration of the vote by which the recommendation of the committee on Letters and Documents was amended so as to fix the time for the meeting of the next Session of the Association, for Friday before the 3rd Sabbath in August, 1886.

Motion to reconsider was carried. On motion, the original recommendation of the committee as to the time and place was adhered to.

Report on Missions, was read by Bro. Strock. Discussed by Elds. T. M. Bailey, (time unlimited,) and J. A. Mullens, who made a report of his Missionary labors in this Association.

Eld. J. A. Mullens stated that there were two blind women in the bounds of this Association, who needed assistance, and he wanted \$6.00 for them. The sum of \$10.10 was raised for them, and turned over to the Finance Committee, for the purpose indicated.

Eld. T. M. Bailey, said he wanted to see how much the different Churches of this Association, would endeavor to make an effort to raise for the State Mission Board for the Conventional year, 1885-86, not to be pledged.

On motion, the roll of the Churches was called, and responses, under the proposition, made as follows:

Shady Grove.....	\$25 00
Plantersville.....	20 00
Bethel.....	5 00
Bethesda.....	10 00
Harmony.....	10 00
Autaugaville.....	10 00
Big Spring.....	10 00
Liberty.....	50 00
Bozeman.....	233 33
Shiloh.....	15 00
Friendship.....	20 00
Verbena.....	50 00
Chestnut Creek.....	20 00

Corinth	20 00
Cane Creek.....	15 00
Mt Zion.....	30 00
Clanton.....	25 00
Mulberry.....	20 00
Pilgrims Rest.....	5 00
Randolph.....	10 00
Valley Creek.....	5 00
Collins Chappel.....	5 00
Ebenezer	40 00
New Prospect.....	5 00
Evergreen	10 00

\$668 33

Sabbath School at Ebenezer would try to raise something.

Bro. W. J. Smith, said if the above amount of \$668.33 should be paid by the churches, he would see that the remainder of the \$700, called for by the State Mission Board from this Association, was paid.

Report on Missions was then adopted.

Report on deceased ministers was read by Bro. T. M. Henley, report adopted.

Report on aged and infirm ministers and the families of deceased ministers, was read by W. C. Adair. Discussed by Eld. J. Falkner, Sisters Ann Goss, and Phereba Longcrier, widows of two deceased ministers, of this Association, were reported as being in indigent circumstances. For Sister Goss, there was raised \$20.50 in the house. Bro. T. M. Bailey, said the State Board would pay 25 per cent. on the amount, if \$20, was raised. Brethren, W. T. Smith, J. R. Caldwell and S. B. Wilder, said they would pay five dollars each. Bro. W. N. Huckabee, stated that Plantersville Church would raise \$15, for Sister Longcrier.

The Committee on preaching, reported Eld. J. R. Caldwell, to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next Session, Hardy Jones, alternate.

Report on Finance, was read by Eld. W. N. Huckabee. Report adopted.

On motion, the sum of sixty-five dollars was appropriated to the Clerk for his services, and for printing and distributing the minutes, and that 800 copies be printed.

The following resolution offered by Eld. Falkner was adopted. In order to obtain uniformity among our churches in hymn books used by them.

Resolved, That we recommend all the churches of this Association to adopt and procure "The Baptist Hymnal" published by the Baptist Publication Society, of Philadelphia, Pa., to be used in their respective churches in their public worship.

The following resolution offered by Eld. W. N. Huckabee, was adopted :

Resolved, That the churches comprising this body be earnestly requested to report, annually, in their letters to the Association, all moneys paid out by them on account of salaries of pastors, and on account of everything whatsoever, in connection with their churches, whether of benevolence, charity or otherwise, so that a clear and concise statement can be made of all moneys paid out by the churches of this Association.

In reply to some statements contained in the report of the Committee on Letters and Documents, the Clerk stated, that the Minutes of last session were distributed from the office of the Alabama Baptist, and he is unaware how one of the churches failed to receive any copies. If there was a mistake on the part of the Clerk, or that of the Alabama Baptist, he was satisfied it was unintentional. In regard to the complaint made by Mulberry Church, the Clerk was informed by two or three members of that Church, that the package of minutes addressed to that Church had been broken open, thus showing that the package had been tampered with by some unauthorized person or persons. Minutes to be distributed according to amounts sent up by the Churches.

The following resolution offered by Bro. W. C. Adair, was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That this Body does most heartily tender its thanks to the brethren, sisters and friends, of Friendship Church and community, for their kind and generous hospitality during its sojourn with them.

The Treasurer read his report, which on motion was adopted.

Having finished the business of the Association, we sang the hymn, "When I can read my title clear," united in prayer with Eld. J. Falkner, then adjourned to meet with the Clanton Church, on L. & N. R. R. Chilton county, on Saturday before the first Sabbath, in October, 1886. Benediction by Eld. A. Andrews.

T. M. HENLEY, Clerk.

A. J. BROOKS, Moderator.

REPORT ON LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS.

Your Committee on Letters and Documents beg leave to submit the following report :

We have carefully examined the letters entrusted to us, and find 25 out of the 27 churches reported by letter. We also find two petitionary letters, asking for admittance into this body. We find 23 Sabbath Schools reported, with an attendance of 771. We are very sorry to say that but few of the churches report prayer meetings. Two churches complain of the distribution of the Minutes of last year. One receiving no Minutes, and the other not as many as she thought she was entitled to. We find that three have been licensed, making seven licentiates in our midst. Two churches, Clanton and Liberty, have asked for the Association next year. We recommend that the churches make out their reports in as concise a form as possible. We also find that New Prospect asks the Association to help her both in building and sustaining a pastor.

We recommend Clanton as the place, and Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in October, 1886, as the time for the next meeting of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

W. N. HUCKABEE,

Chairman.

REPORT ON BIBLE SCHOOLS.

Your Committee respectfully report :

We feel to rejoice in the fact these schools have greatly multiplied in numbers, also improved in methods of instruction in our bounds. The brethren have become aroused more than ever on the importance of these schools. We feel gratified to note the improvement by which the churches take hold of the work more earnestly and prayerfully, with a more definite purpose for the conversion of their children. Notwithstanding this evident improvement in the right direction, we know and feel that there is room for higher attainments, so we would urge the brethren to raise their standard

higher and look up, expecting greater things of the Lord. For who can doubt for one moment that the Divine favor has rested upon these schools in the conversion of many of our children? We find our preachers are more generally interested. This is right. We hope there will not be one in the State, e'er long, but who will become fully enlisted in the great work. We believe it is a part of their work, and without attending to it they fall short of their duty as pastors. We find in some of the (we fear there are many in the State) schools a fearful neglect of the word of God before the eyes of their respective classes during recitation, relying solely upon the lesson paper. Brethren, this ought not so to be. Anchor well in the scriptures of eternal truth, and search them diligently and see if what you are learning and teaching is in accordance with them!

We are satisfied that much of this improvement is the fruit of our evangelical work in the State, headed by our indefatigable Secretary, Rev. T. M. Bailey, in connection with discussions had at our District Meetings, Sunday School Conventions, etc. Then, brethren, let us increase our diligence in the great work, for it is a great work. Now, in order to show that it is a great work, let us consider the heathen or idol worshippers: We believe it has been through these Bible Schools they have been successfully reached, and that, without them, they could not have been reached. Then, we would ask, what are these schools but the proclamation of the gospel? Now, brethren, we would not have you, as some affirm and teach these schools should be kept up and sustained as a kind of preparatory step to receive the gospel, as we heard something like this on one occasion. As John the Baptist was the forerunner of Jesus, to prepare the way, so, in like manner should these schools be regarded. We know of no scripture applicable in this sense. But we would have you, and we would, respectfully, urge upon you, to take higher ground, remembering that all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. They are also the sword of the spirit. Then you, with bible in hand, religion in the heart, and with the whole armor of God on, should proclaim: Now, now is the day of salvation; harden not your hearts! As teachers and officers be not content or satisfied till all the children in your charge shall be brought savingly to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. "Go work in my vineyard," saith Jesus; the laymen as well as the ministers, the little christian as well as the big christian. Work! work! 'Tis Jesus who commands you.

Respectfully submitted,

O. W. SHERER,
Chairman.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Whereas, the Chairman of the Committee on Education, Bro. J. M. Clay, has not been able to meet with us and has not sent in his report, we beg leave to submit the following:

We would recommend to this body to select good, moral, sober men to teach the public schools of our respective communities. The law requires that the teachers of our schools shall know physiology, especially that part which teaches the effect of alcohol on the nervous system. It is of little use to teach a subject, unless that subject is taught by the action of the teacher; so it would do no good to teach the effects of alcohol on the system unless the teacher's life comported with his teaching.

There is a special class of education which demands our notice. The Ministerial Board of Education asks the denomination for \$300 this year to carry forward their work. This amount can be raised. This is only a little over \$50 from each Association in correspondence with the State Convention. This Board does not confine its benefits to those in Howard College, but renders assistance to ministerial students in the high schools of our country. It has been made known to this committee that Prof. Acree, Principal of the Verbena Male and Female Academy, has offered free tuition to any two young preachers who are approved and sent to him. Brethren, we see no reason why the Unity Association should not lead the van in this noble work. Last year we had Bro J. M. Kailen in the Howard, and we would recommend the Association to send him back this year. Let us, dear brethren, see if we can't have two beneficiaries in school this year, one at Howard College and one at Verbena. And let us not forget to send our daughters to the Judson at Marion, and to the Alabama Central Female College at Tuscaloosa.

Respectfully submitted.

W. N. HUCKABEE,

For Committee

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee respectfully report: There is, perhaps, no subject, (exclusive of the Christian religion) fraught with so much interest, and is agitating the public mind so much of late, as the subject of Temperance. We deem it unnecessary to try to set forth the demoralizing and destroying effect of strong drink, for this is conceded by all. We feel gratified, however, at the great results which have attended the efforts of the friends of Temperance and that of prohibition. Notwithstanding great good has been done, there is much more to be done, and its friends should feel greatly encouraged in the work and still press it on. Your Committee is of the opinion, however, that prohibition will not cure the evil or complete its overthrow. But it may, or can be done, if all heads of families would commence the work with their children while young, teach them, as Solomon says, "to look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder."—*Prov. Chap. 23; v. 31-32*. And the prophet Hobakuk says, "Cursed is he who putteth the bottle to his neighbor's lips." Teach them not only by precept but by example. Then we would respect-

fully urge upon all Christians, especially those of our own people, to commence the work now. Teach Temperance in the Bible schools, proclaim it upon the housetops, speak of it in their uprisings and down sittings, thy going out and thy coming in. Demand a rigid enforcement of the late law of the State respecting day schools—that hygiene and physiology be taught therein. This law of itself, passed by the last Legislature, should greatly encourage us, knowing it to have been a representative body which clearly indicated the temperance idea throughout the entire State. Now, as we have the inside track, let us push. Go forward, ye mighty host, till intemperance shall be a thing of the past.

Respectfully submitted,

O. W. SHERER, Chairman.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee beg leave to make the following report:

STATE MISSION WORK.

During the conventional year just closed we had eighty-one men in the service of the Board for the whole or a part of the year. The labors of these brethren extended into sixty of our sixty-six counties. The results of their work, so far as they can be expressed in figures, are as follows: Days of actual service, 7,119; miles traveled 52,928; sermons and addresses delivered, 4,063; churches constituted, 13; baptisms, 919; received by letter, 377; restored, 106; total additions to the churches, 1,402; Sunday Schools organized, 71; ladies' missionary societies organized, 11; religious visits made, 6,035; number of missionary stations, 100; subscribers to Alabama Baptist secured, 112; subscribers to Foreign Journal, 81; prayer meetings conducted, 927; meeting houses begun, 12; meeting houses finished, 6. The brethren have done good, true, solid work, and have shown the true spirit of sacrifice.

The State Mission Board has just closed its first decade. The statistic of the work for ten years are as follows:

Days of actual service, 50,318, equal to the labors of one man for 138 years; sermons and addresses delivered, 27,196; baptisms, 4,387; received by letter, 1,591; restored, 609; total additions to the churches 6,578; churches constituted, 110; Sunday schools organized, 1,138; ladies' missionary societies organized, 46; religious visits made, 30,737; subscriptions to Alabama Baptist secured, 2,351; miles traveled, 357,642; tracts distributed, pages, over 200,000; books and pamphlets sold, 29,134, valued at \$12,190.69; cost of the work for ten years, \$82,462.87.

HOME MISSIONS.

Work done during the Southern Baptist Conventional year, 1884-85:

Number of Missionaries, 185; churches and stations, 426; weeks of labor,

4,061; sermons and addresses, 17,039; prayer meetings attended, 2,840; baptisms, 2,931; received by letter, 1,733; total additions, 4,664; Sunday schools reported, 173; teachers and pupils, 6,194; miles traveled, 164,937; religious visits, 22,818; churches aided to build houses, 14; churches constituted, 53.

In Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida, Texas, Western North Carolina and among the Indians, the Home Board is doing an extensive work. The building up of towns and cities on the new lines of various railroads now being so rapidly constructed in these States, opens large and inviting fields for this Board to occupy; and the duty of adequately meeting the wants of these fields, with men and means, and thus laying the foundation of permanent denominational prosperity, must be apparent to every thinking mind. In New Orleans the work is making steady and hopeful progress. Industrial schools have been established and mission stations opened up, which bid fair, by-and-by, to grow into churches. Let pastors see to it that liberal contributions are made next fall and winter to Home Missions. The Board expects from Alabama \$4,000.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

In Mexico the Board has fifteen Missionaries and native assistants. Baptized and received by letter during the year 90; scholars 93; church members 190.

In Brazil we have eight Missionaries and native assistants. Baptized during the year 37; scholars 40; church members 113.

In Africa we have fifteen Missionaries and native assistants. Baptized during the year 7; pupils 195; church members 125; contributions \$190.

In China we have fifty-six Missionaries and native assistants. Baptized 34; church members 645; pupils, 145; contributions \$567 85.

In Italy we have twelve Missionaries and native assistants. Baptized 35; church members 250; contributions \$42.

A good work is being accomplished under our Foreign Mission Board. New forces are being sent out to several fields, and this calls for increased contributions from the people. "Let the Baptists of the South be plied with the whole counsel of God by a consecrated ministry, and as sure as they possess the grace of God, and God is true to His promises, they will come up to the full measure of their duty in giving the gospel to mankind." The Board expects to go forward, depending on the liberality of the churches and claiming the Divine promise: "Lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." We are asked to give this year for Foreign Missions \$5,000.

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. STROCK, Chairman.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

Your Committee on Periodicals beg leave to report: That we have had

the subject under consideration and respectfully recommend to the Denomination the "Alabama Baptist," which is now being published in the city of Montgomery, by Bro. J. G. Harris & Co. This paper is the recognized organ of the denomination in this State, and is well worthy of our patronage, and we know of no paper that can supply its place in our families; it supplies us with important information that cannot be obtained from any other source. The paper is published at so low a price that it is within the reach of all who desire to read it, and we would rejoice to know that it was read by every Baptist in the State. We also recommend "The Foreign Mission Journal," published in Richmond, Va., by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, which furnishes us with the much needed information as to what our denomination is doing in the foreign field, which can be had in clubs at twenty-five cents per copy, and ought to have a very large circulation.

Sunday Schools: In this department of christian work, we recommend "Kind Words," which never fails to interest the children of our schools, and may be read with advantage by the older members also. We feel that we cannot recommend too highly the publications of the American Baptist Publication Society. There is no other class of Sunday School publications that so fully meet all the wants of our Sunday Schools as are found here; they are printed on good paper, and with clear type, and we think this literature ought to be used by all our schools as they teach, as no other publications do, the doctrines for which Baptists have been distinguished throughout the christian world. Furthermore, all the profits (if any are made) go to the denomination.

Respectfully submitted,

J. FALKNER, Chairman.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

We find no deaths to report among the ministry of our Association during the past year. Thanks to the Great Preserver.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. MULLENS, Chairman.

REPORT ON AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS AND FAMILIES OF DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your Committee beg leave to report as follows: We find from careful inquiry that there are in the bounds of our Association two deceased ministers' widows in indigent circumstances, to-wit: Sister Phereba Longe-rier and old Sister Ann Goss. We are glad to state that Sister Longe-rier is in better circumstances than she was one year ago. We recommend that some assistance be rendered these two sisters, and we are satisfied, that how limited it may be, it will be thankfully received.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. ADAIR, Chairman.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We, Your Committee on Finance, report :

Amount for Indigent Ministers and families.....	\$ 30 60
“ “ Minutes and Associational Purposes.....	67 10
“ “ State Missions.....	50 00
“ “ Home Missions.....	15 00
“ “ Foreign Missions.....	23 30
“ “ Ministerial Education.....	20 00
	<hr/>
	\$206 00

Amount as per vouchers.....\$139 85

By am't paid Bro. K. Wells on ac't of Bro. I. M. Kailen..\$45 60

“ “ overpaid Bro. T. M. Bailey, error by Bro. Wells
last year..... 27 00

Total amount paid Bro. K. Wells...\$72 60

To balance on hand.....\$206 00

Vouchers..... 139 85

\$345 85

Respectfully submitted,

W. F. SMITH, Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

K. Wells, Treasurer, in account with Unity Baptist Association—

DR.

To amount in Treasury at close of last session, Oct., 1884.....\$132 20

Paid by error to T. M. Bailey.....\$159 20

Which leaves \$27 00 due Tresurer

Indigent Fund..... 10 10

To cash from Finance Committee, Oct., 1885 .. 248 00—258 10

“ vouchers..... 139 85

\$557 15

CR.

1884. By T. M. Bailey's receipt.....\$159 20

1885. “ Amount paid Clerk for minutes and services.. 65 00

“ “ paid K. Wells on ac't of J. M. Kailen
and error 72 60

“ Vouchers..... 139 85

“ Cash in Treasury..... 141 00

“ “ paid T. M. Bailey.141 00—\$577 65.

Respectfully submitted,

K. WELLS, Treasurer.

ARTICLE OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one only living and true God—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost ; these three are one—1 Corinthians 8:6; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 5:7.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only correct rule of faith and practice—2 Peter 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:16.

3. We believe in the doctrine of election, and that God chose His people in Christ before the foundation of the world, through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth—1 Peter 1 2 5; Ephesians 1:4; 2 Thessalonians 2:13.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin—Romans 3:23; 5:12; 3:10.

5. We believe in man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature—Romans 5:6; John 6:44; Ephesians 2:1-5; Philippians 2:13.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ—Romans 5:1; Galatians 2:16-20

7. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away—2 Corinthians 12:9; Colossians 3:4; Romans 8:38-39.

8. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the church of Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and that immersion only is baptism—Matthew 3:5 6, 13, 16; Acts 2:37-38; Acts 8:38-39.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment. Acts 17:31; John 5:28-29.

10. We believe that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting—Matthew 25:46.

11. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances except those who are called of God and have been regularly baptised, approved by the church, and come under the impositions of hands by a Presbytery—1 Timothy 4:14; Acts 26:16.

12. We believe that none but regularly baptised believers have right to partake of the Lord's Supper—Acts 2:42-44; 2 Corinthians 6:14; 1 Corinthians 11:23, 29.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1.—This Association shall be known as the "THE UNITY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION," and shall be composed of delegates from such churches as constitute, or may hereafter unite with this body.

ART. 2.—The design of its labors shall be to promote the cause of Christ and to encourage those objects supported by Baptists generally.

ART. 3.—This Association shall hold its sessions Annually, at such a time and place as it may appoint.

ART. 4.—The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer—to be elected at each session—who shall perform all the duties appertaining to such offices in similar bodies; and in case of the absence of any officer, one *pro tem*, shall be appointed by the Association until an election is declared.

ART. 5.—A record of the proceedings of this Association shall be kept

by the Clerk, and, as soon as practicable after the close of each session, he shall superintend the printing of the minutes thereof, and shall furnish each church with a suitable number of copies.

ART. 6—Any church, subscribing to our Abstract of Faith may be admitted into this Association by the consent of the members in session.

ART. 7—Any church orthodox in faith and practice, which has complied with this Constitution may withdraw from this body by the consent of a majority of the members in session.

ART. 8—This Association, in regular session, may dissolve its connection with any church which may differ with it in doctrine or practice.

ART. 9—Any church of this Association, with thirty members or less, shall be entitled to three delegates, and one additional delegate for every additional twenty-five members or fractional part thereof.

ART. 10—It shall be the duty of each church to forward a written communication to every session, specifying the names of its delegates and the state of the church.

ART. 11—If a difficulty should arise in a church, which cannot be settled thereby, the church shall call aid from two or more sister churches; if the matter cannot then be adjusted, it shall be referred to the Association for advice.

ART. 12—All queries must be acted upon by the churches in which they may originate, and when they fail to be disposed of therein, must be reported, by letter, to the Association; the decision thereof shall be considered an advisory answer.

ART. 13—This Association shall have a fund supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches, and all moneys thus contributed shall be transmitted and paid over to the Finance Committee, and said committee to pay over to the Treasurer.

ART. 14—Any article of this Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present at any regular session.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. The officers of the Association shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.
3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have discretionary right to call to order at any time.
4. Any member not satisfied with his decision may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.
5. But one member shall speak at a time, and he shall rise, and, obtaining permission, proceed; such permission being signified by the Moderator naming the person, or otherwise.
6. No person shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject; and every motion made and seconded, in order, shall come under the consideration of the Association, and be decided, unless withdrawn by him who made it.
7. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another is offered.
8. When a question has been introduced, and sufficient time allowed for debate, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association upon the sub-

ject; those in the affirmative shall make it known by saying aye, and those in the negative, nay. If a division on the question is called for, the decision shall be made by the members rising to their feet.

9. The appellation "brother" shall be used in the Association when one brother addresses another, but this article shall not be so construed as to ignore the Moderator.

10. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

11. The names of the delegates shall be called as often as the Association shall direct.

12. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges of speaking as any other member, provided he appoints another to his seat; but shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided. He may also appoint committees necessary for transacting any business that may, from time to time, come before the Association.

13. Any member violating these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator, but only on the day such violation occurs.

14. These rules shall be read at the opening of every session of the Association, and may be altered or amended whenever a majority of the members present shall deem it necessary.

TIMES AND PLACES OF MEETING AND OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION
FROM ITS ORIGIN TO THE PRESENT

Year.	Place of Meeting.	Preacher of Introductory Sermon.	Moderator.	Clerk.	Treasurer.
1855	Shady Grove.....	J. R. Sartor.....	B. B. Smith.....	J. N. Gradiak.....	J. Nunn
1856	Plantersville.....	A. C. Patillo.....	B. B. Smith.....	J. I. Lamar.....	J. Nunn
1857	Mulberry.....	A. Andrews.....	B. B. Smith.....	J. I. Lamar.....	J. Nunn
1858	Kingston.....	D. M. Lloyd.....	J. D. Moodie.....	J. I. Lamar.....	J. Nunn
1859	Harmony.....	J. H. Ray.....	I. U. Wilkes.....	J. I. Lamar.....	J. Nunn
1860	Ebenezer.....	J. D. Moodie.....	I. U. Wilkes.....	J. I. Lamar.....	J. Nunn
1861	Chestnut Creek.....	W. Wilkes.....	I. U. Wilkes.....	J. I. Lamar.....	J. Nunn
1862	Bethesda.....	A. Andrews.....	I. U. Wilkes.....	A. L. Haralson.....	L. B. Parker
1863	.....	.....	.....	.....	L. B. Parker
1864	Randolph.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1865	Plantersville.....	A. Andrews.....	A. Andrews.....	W. R. Grandy.....	L. B. Parker
1866	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1867	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1868	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1869	Bethel.....	A. Andrews.....	A. Andrews.....	W. C. Adair.....	L. B. Parker
1870	Mt. Hebron.....	W. Lee.....	A. Andrews.....	W. C. Adair.....	L. B. Parker
1871	Mulberry.....	J. Allen.....	A. Andrews.....	W. C. Adair.....	L. B. Parker
1872	Chestnut Creek.....	W. Lee.....	A. Andrews.....	J. L. Williams.....	W. C. Adair
1873	Big Springs.....	J. A. Mullens.....	A. Andrews.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	W. C. Adair
1874	Plantersville.....	G. W. Mills.....	A. Andrews.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	K. Wells
1875	Mt. Zion.....	Wm. Lee.....	Wm. Lee.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	K. Wells
1876	Ebenezer.....	J. A. Mullens.....	Wm. Lee.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	K. Wells
1877	Harmony.....	A. Andrews.....	Wm. Lee.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	K. Wells
1878	Chestnut Creek.....	F. M. Vines.....	A. Andrews.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	K. Wells
1879	Fellowship.....	A. L. Bilzard.....	A. Andrews.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	K. Wells
1880	Bethesda.....	G. W. Mills.....	J. Falkner.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	K. Wells
1881	Mulberry.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	J. Falkner.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	K. Wells
1882	Shiloh.....	A. Andrews.....	J. Falkner.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	K. Wells
1883	Randolph.....	G. W. Mills.....	J. Falkner.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	K. Wells
1884	Harmony.....	W. N. Huckabee.....	J. Falkner.....	H. E. Longcrier.....	K. Wells
1885	Friendship.....	J. A. Mullens.....	J. Falkner.....	T. M. Henley.....	K. Wells
			A. J. Brooks.....	T. M. Henley.....	K. Wells

STATISTICAL TABLE.

FOURTH DIST.	THIRD DIST.	SECOND DIST.	FIRST DIST.	CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	Post Office	COUNTY.	No. of Members Present at Conv.	Minutes and Ass'l Purposes	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Bible and Colpor- tage Work	Ministerial Edu- cation	Aged and Infir- m	Mins't and families	Sabbath Schools.	Church Building	Fund	Furnishing Room	at Howard College	Gen'l Purposes of State Convention	Amt. Paid Pastor	Sabbath Meetings	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd by Letter.	Rec'd by Vouch'r	Restored	Dismiss'd by Letter	Excluded	Deaths	Total Numbers.	Pastors Expenses to State Conv'tn	Pledge for Wells.		
				Shady Grove	W. N. Huckabee	C. A. Arnold	Burnsville	Dallas	2	5 00	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$								\$ 50 00	3	2				3	1	37	\$	\$			
				Plantersville	G. W. Mills.	W. H. McGee	Plantersv'le	"	1	4 00	2 55					3 00	2 55										1	6	3		7	1	46	3 60			
				Bethel	Not represented																																
				Bethesda	J. H. Ray	James H. Bates	Independ'ce	Autauga	2	4 00	6 80							1 30											4	1	3		7	2	51		
				Harmony	S. M. Adams	G. W. Taylor	Milton	"	4	3 00																100 00	1	4	9		26	1	1	64		5 00	
				Autaugaville	J. R. Caldwell	O. W. Sherer	Autauga'v'l	"	1	1 00	1 00																										
				Evergreen	S. M. Adams	W. W. Caffey	Milton	"	2	1 50	1 60																	3d Fri.									
				Big Spring	S. M. Adams	J. C. Butler	Billingsley	"	5	2 00		3 00	3 00													45 00	Fr b'f. 1				5	2					
				Liberty	J. H. Ray	S. B. Wilder	Deatsville	Elmore	5	1 50	5 00																	3	25	9		5	2	1	112		
				*Bozeman	J. Falkner	W. T. Augell	Bozeman	Chilton	3	25 00																	160 00	2 & 4	23	7	4	1	7	2	78		
				Beth Salem	Not represented																																
				Shiloh	T. Bice	J. H. Griffin	Kincheon	Chilton	5	2 50		2 50																	3		2		4	1	1	98	
				Friendship	J. L. Long	A. N. Norris	Verbena	"	6	5 30																			3	5	7		2	1	2	78	
				Verbena	J. L. Thompson	A. J. Brooks	"	"	7	3 75	9 74	4 45	12 75	12 46	20 00												300 00	1 & 3	4	9		6	2		61		
				New Prospect	G. W. Coburn	Bozeman	"	"	3	2 50																											
				Chestnut Creek	J. L. Long	A. J. L. Dennis	Cooper's St.	"	5	4 50																	44 37	Sab f. 1	9	3		2	1	1	86		
				Corinth	T. Bice	W. D. Goss	Verbena	"	3	1 75																				1			4	1	58		
				Providence	W. G. Riggins	R. Roberson	Coopers' St.	"	1	5 00																	50 00	3	1		3	4	16	1	135		
				Cane Creek	J. A. Mullens	Jos. Gore	Clanton	"	1	2 00	2 05																		1	3	1		6	1	36		
				Poplar Springs	W. G. Riggins	W. D. Scarbrough	Cooper's St.	"	4	2 50																			4	5	4		4	2	41		
				Mount Zion	J. A. Mullens	J. H. Vines	Clanton	"	2	3 05	6 10		1 75						5 50	1 50											4		2	10	2	69	
				Clanton	J. L. Thompson	J. H. Aldridge	"	"	1	42 25	32 50		4 25																4	9	14		1	1	61		
				Mulberry	J. M. McCord	J. L. Williams	Lilley	"	2	1 50		11 25	65																3	3		1	4	3	2	93	
				Pilgrim's Rest	T. L. Dickerson	Collierville	"	"	2	1 50																					9	1	2	1	28		
				Randolph	W. N. Huckabee	T. M. Henley	Randolph	Bibb	3	3 50																		100 00	2	6	11	2	1		51		
				Valley Creek	G. W. Mills	T. M. Cook	Plantersv'le	Dallas	1	1 50		2 35						2 35												4	1	7			1	32	
				Mt. Carmel	I. U. Wilkes	W. W. Sanson	Maplesville	Chilton	2	2 00																				4	7			21		36	
				Collin's Chapel	J. A. Mullens	W. D. Martin	Jemison	"	2	1 50	2 70																	13 90	2	2					19		
Ebenezer	G. W. Mills	J. A. Stevens	Collierville	"	3	2 50	4 68	2 57	2 95					10 95	2 75	\$4 45								100 00	1 & 3	8	10		3	1	86						
					78												\$4 45									135	102	7	15	119	39	23	1552	3 60	5 00		

*In the Letter of Bozeman Church, \$100 is reported paid—purpose not stated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	SUPERINTENDENTS.	POST OFFICE.	County.	PAPERS USED.	Total..... .....School	Expenses..
Shady Grove.....	P. R. King	Barnesville	Dallas..	Kind Words	15	.....
Plantersville.....	S. G. Todd	Plantersville....	"	American Sunday School Union.....	31	.....
Bethesda.....	J. S. Poole	Independence..	Autauga	Kind Words	65	.....
Harmony..	G. W. Taylor.	Milton... ..	"	" "	64	.....
Big Spring	W. W. Carter.....	Billingsley .....	"	" " .....		.....
Liberty.....		Deatsville	Elmore..			.....
Bozeman.....	W. F. Smith	Bozeman.....	Chilton..	A. M. B. P. Society	65	45 00
Friendship	J. L. Long	Verbena	"	" " " " "	13	.....
Verbena	A. C. Haralson	"	"	Internat'l Kind Words and Calvery Catechism	73	12 00
New Prospect.....	(Has a Sabbath school	no statistics.)	"			
Chestnut Creek..	M. J. E. Estes	Verbena	Chilton..	Catechism	20	5 00
Mt. Zion.	James Hines.	Clanton.	"	A. M. B. P. Society	40	.....
Clanton.	J. H. Chandler	"	"	" " " " "	85	.....
Mulberry..	J. L. Williams.....	Lilley	"		40	.....
Randolph	S. A. Latham	Randolph	Bibb....	A. M. P. B. Society.	74	18 00
Collins Chapel ..	J. A. Martin	Jemison.	Chilton..	" " " " "	40	.....
Ebenezar	F. D. Dubose.	Mapleville	"	" " " " "	50	4 45
Evergreen	G. W. Taylor	Milton.....	Autauga	Kind Words.....		.....

NAMES AND ADDRESS OF MINISTERS OF THE ASSOCI- ATION.

NAME	POST OFFICE.	COUNTY.	STATE.
A. Andrews.....	Burnsville..	Dallas.....	Alabama.
J. Falkner.....	Mountain Creek.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
G. W. Mills.....	Plantersville.....	Dallas.....	Alabama.
C. C. Billingsley.....	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
J. A. Mullens.....	Clanton.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
G. P. Olive.....	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
W. J. Ruddick.....	Callierville.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
T. J. Elam.....	Randolph.....	Bibb.....	Alabama.
W. N. Huckabee.....	Planterville.....	Dallas.....	Alabama.
Isaac Bice.....	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
J. L. Long.....	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
J. L. Sampey.....	Clanton.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
J. R. Caldwell.....	Deatsville.....	Elmore.....	Alabama.
J. R. Johnston.....	Deatsville.....	Elmore.....	Alabama.
J. H. Ray.....	Deatsville.....	Elmore.....	Alabama.
J. L. Thompson.....	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.

LICENTIATES.

W. W. Jones.....	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
J. M. Thacker.....	Clanton.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
J. M. Dennis.....	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
A. G. Patrick.....	Kincheon.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
John Taylor.....	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
W. M. Wood.....	Lily.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
J. M. Kailen.....	Callierville.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
T. J. Billingsley.....	Kincheon.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.
Hardy Jones.....	Verbena.....	Chilton.....	Alabama.

THE ALABAMA BAPTIST


IS THE ORGAN OF THE

BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

THERE is no more important interest fostered by the denomination than this paper. It ought to be read in every Baptist family in Alabama. This is not asking too much.

Having removed to Montgomery, the capital of the State, the publishers hope to deserve more than ever the support of the denomination.

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John G. Harris

—AND—

Wm. A. Davis,

} Editors and Proprietors.

SAMUEL HENDERSON, D. D., Associate Editor.

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